PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

Volume 14, Issue 10 October 2021

Madison Smith
A Teen Investigator's Journey

The Ghosts That Haunt Nottingham

Signs From the SPIRIT WORLD

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Cheryl is a freelance journalist and international author of *Dimensions: Mysterious Triangles of the US* and coauthor of *Digging Into Skinwalker Ranch*.

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Willie has appeared on A&E's *Cursed: The Bell Witch* and CMTs *Most Shocking Ghosts*. He also hosted a public access show in Louisville, Kentucky, for 12 years, called *Spiritual Gifts and Wonders*. In addition, he created a group of sensitives, called Soul Warriors, who are based across the U.S.

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paranormalunderground.net

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Morgan is a graduate from the University of North Carolina in Greensboro where she obtained a bachelor's degree in English. She loves to write and maintains a healthy fascination with all things paranormal thanks to experiences with the unexplained that she has experienced throughout her life.

Morgan knows a little bit about a lot of paranormal topics from research she has conducted. She pledges to keep you up to date about things that go bump in the night via *Paranormal Underground's* monthly news column.

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Athena is the founder and CEO of SageGoddess.com, a source of sacred tools and metaphysical education. She earned a doctorate from the University of Southern California in educa-

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Through her writing, online courses, and material offerings, Athena helps others cultivate and maintain sacred space in their lives for peace, healing, and abundance.

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Hell's Bells (2020) and *Camp Neverland* (2021) are her novellas, and *The Forest* (2021) is her debut novel. Her work has also appeared in such places as *Unnerving Magazine*, *Journal of Alta California*, and *Automata Review*. Lisa lives in New Jersey with one handsome devil and two wild monsters.

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Known as an esoteric detective, Paul has been reading and studying the unknown since he was a young boy. He has been to over 59 countries to document the paranormal. He worked for military intelligence from 1979 to 1986 and saw several top-secret UFO photographs, making him very interested in extraterrestrials.

Paul is a journalist for the *Costa Rican Times*, and his articles cover metaphysical topics and paranormal investigative stories. He is co-owner of Halo Paranormal Investigations.

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Maria Anna is an investigative journalist, columnist, author, and theoretical physicist with a master's degree in ancient alchemy and bachelor's degree in metaphysics. Her interests include mythology, medieval and pre-Egyptian symbolism, and quantum, optical, particle, and astroparticle physics, among others.

As the founder and publisher of *The Next Truth* and *Young People Science* magazines, Maria Anna profiles open-minded scientists and non-scientists who combine accepted science and the still-unexplained events in life within their work and research.

nexttruth.com

CHAD WILSON

A freelance writer, Chad is co-creator and publisher of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and co-producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. His interest in the paranormal led to the creation of www.ParanormalUnderground.net.

Chad has investigated with East Tennessee Paranormal Research Society and counts Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Villisca Axe Murder House, Bobby Mackey's Music World, the Queen Mary, Queen Anne Hotel, Hotel Alex Johnson, and private residences among his investigations.

paranormalunderground.net ◆

Have You Had a Paranormal Encounter You'd Like to Share?

If you've had a paranormal encounter and would like to share it with our readers, email us at paranormalunderground@live.com. Tell us about your experience, and we may publish it in a future issue.

We are looking for encounters with all types of paranormal phenomena, including experiences with ghosts, cryptids, UFOs/ETs, the spirit realm, psychic phenomena, and any strange and unusual encounters that defy explanation.

Your submission can be anonymous!

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A Thinning of the Veil

October 31st marks the halfway point between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice. One of the four primary Celtic seasonal festivals, Halloween, or Samhain as it's called, is celebrated by people around the world. Also, at this time of year, the veil between our plane of existence and the spiritual realm is thought to be at its thinnest.

Chad Wilson, Publisher

With this thinning of the veil comes increased contact with the spirits as they cross from their world into our own more freely. From this belief in spiritual visitation at Halloween developed the custom of leaving food and drink out for the spirits to enjoy, lest they take offense.

Also, from these old customs came the idea of wearing costumes on Halloween. Originally, this practice was more than just an attempt to have fun. Donning costumes was used as a way to ward off any spirits who meant harm.

Eventually, the custom grew to include participants going door to door, reciting verse and singing in exchange for food. It was thought that those who refused to give food would suffer misfortune during the coming year. Out of this grew the modern-day practice of trick or treating.

And while Halloween has grown far past its initial purpose of appeasing and honoring the dead, it still holds a special place in the hearts of many. The very idea of the spookiness of Halloween appeals to me personally. I've always loved cheesy, scary movies and eating candy, of course.

But, as I've gotten older, I've grown to love Halloween for more than these reasons alone. I personally think Halloween is an especially great time to honor those we have lost. What better time to do so than when the spirits are supposedly able to enter our world the easiest?

It is at this time when spirits are the closest that we can give thanks for all that they have taught us in our time with them, be they family, friend, or even stranger. They can truly know how appreciative we are for all that they have done and can take that love and recognition into the next life with them.

So, this Halloween, think about giving thanks to those who have moved on. Let them know how much you love and miss them, and thank them for whatever wisdom they were able to impart to you while they were with you. I'm sure they would appreciate it. ◆

November 5–7
Monsters of Horror Weekend Convention and Film Festival
Hard Rock Casino Tulsa
Catoosa, OK

November 5–6
History Haunts and Legends Paranormal Conference
Jefferson, TX

November 7
Mid-Michigan Paranormal Convention
Holiday Inn / Gateway Center
Flint / Grand Blanc, MI

November 12–14
New Jersey Horror Con and Film Festival
Showboat
Atlantic City, NJ

November 12–14
UFOs: All the Above and Beyond
Aquarius Casino Resort
Laughlin, NV

November 13–14
Dark Arts & Oddities Con
Red Roof Inn
Dekalb, IL

November 19–21
Days of the Dead
Crowne Plaza O'Hare
Rosemont, IL

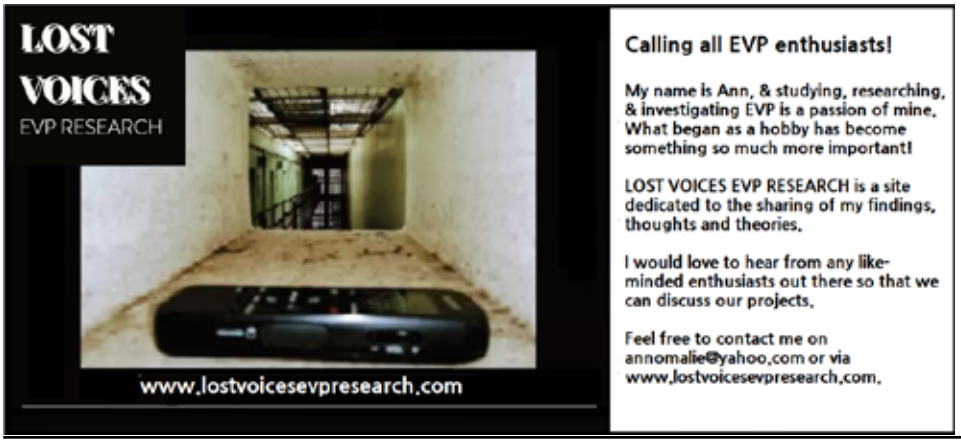
November 20–21
Victory of Life Expo
Sharonville Convention Center
Cincinnati, OH

December 9–11
Las Vegas Paraunity Convention
MGM Grand
Las Vegas, NV

January 8–9, 2022
Stranger Con
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, CA

April 29–30, 2022
5th Annual Nebraska Bigfoot Conference
Location TBD
Hastings, NE

E-mail your paranormal event to paranormalunderground@live.com. ◆



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Fighting Bigfoots, Howling Monsters, Creepy Photos & More!

By Morgan Lineberry

A Bigfoot Fight

What would you do if you stumbled upon two Bigfoots fighting in the woods? This exact thing happened to Mark, a hunter from the United States who was in the woods with a friend, according to a report from John Bett and Adam Goldsmith of the *Mirror*.

"It sounded like two T-Rex's going at it. Branches were snapping, you could hear hollering and growling," Mark said. "Seconds later you could hear something running off, and it jumped into the river, then everything got quiet."

Mark did not give away his whereabouts or last name, but did admit that the hunters "were terrified and were rooted to the spot, before they regained their nerves and ran away."

At first, they thought the creatures were bears, but soon discovered they were wrong. One of the hunters also shined a flashlight on one of the creatures, which Mark said "sucked [the light] up like a sponge." With this interesting information about "light absorption," it's no wonder Bigfoots are so elusive.

Ireland Group Snaps Ghostly Photo

Just having the chance to take photos of a spooky building is exciting enough, but what would happen if you also caught a ghost in one of your photos? Darragh Berry of the *Mirror* reports that a group of paranormal investigators did just that while visiting Moore Hall in County Mayo, Ireland, on September 18.

"Ghost-busting group Paranormal Supernatural Investigations Ireland visited the Moore Hall site after hearing stories about strange sounds and sights in the area," Berry wrote. They were not disappointed, as they took a photo that seems to have captured an eerie figure looking out of a window at the team.

And the ghost did not look pleased to see them. The team also caught some other activity early on during the investigation and plan on going back.

Howls From the Horizon City Monster

Most of us have heard of a lot of cryptids, but one lesser known one is the Horizon City Monster of Texas, and according to recent evidence he is active. *Mysterious Universe's* Paul Seaburn explains that howls have been heard in El Paso recently.

"Local witnesses say that the monster in question is between seven to eight feet tall with broad shoulders and an elongated head," according to the report.

Recently, it has been using that neck to make its presence known. The noise was described as "a screaming, howling screech." If this sounds similar to a Bigfoot howl to you, then you are in good company, as some attribute the howls to Bigfoot instead of the Horizon City Monster.

Whatever it is, I suggest Texans be careful walking around alone at night.

→

When was the last time opening your mailbox gave you the chills?

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CREEPY CRATE
BY THE LINEUP

Video: Hands-Down Spooky!

According to writers at *Strange Topic*, an anonymous video has surfaced and it's giving viewers the creeps. The video was taken by the father of a small child somewhere in the United States or Mexico and shows a "whitish hand, of a cadaver color" coming out of nowhere, then disappearing back into the cupboard.

The small child seems to be playing or hiding in a cabinet when you see a hand suddenly pop out, pointing downward, then it is gone again. Surprisingly, the "ghostly hand was not observed at the time" by the child or father. It is also clearly not the child's hand.

I would not let my child anywhere near that cabinet again! You can watch the video here.

UFO Crash Site Spotted on Google Earth

It is a slightly disturbing fact that you can see almost anything on Google Earth maps, but sometimes people find amazing things. And one YouTuber thinks he spotted a UFO crash site on a remote island, according to *Strange Topic*.

Apparently a strange object was seen via Google Earth on Starbuck Island in the south-central Pacific Ocean, causing the YouTuber who runs the MrMBB33 channel to weigh in on the possible UFO.

"On the west side of the island, you're going to see what looks like a crashed UFO," the YouTuber said. "I don't know how to describe it any other way. You're going to see a long trail in the sand that stretches for a mile. If you follow this trail, there is an object that does not look familiar to you."

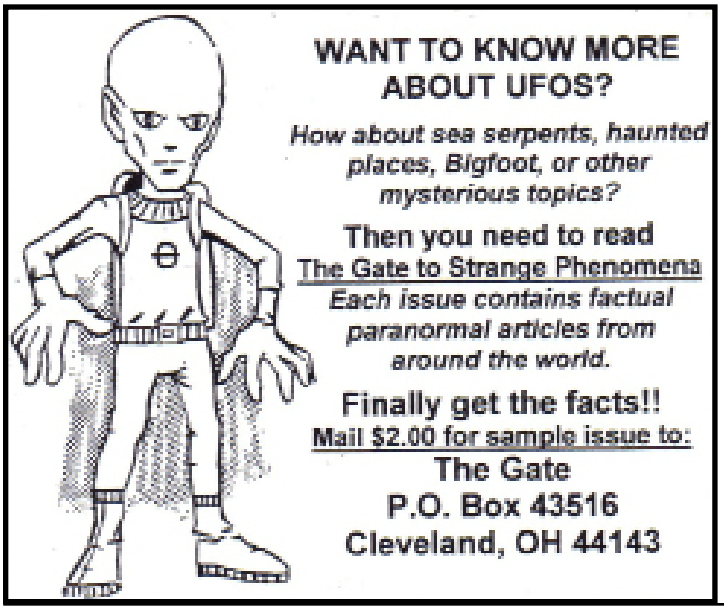
However, some believe the object could be a ship part or other object dragged across the island by the tide.

Civil War Spook

A photographer taking photos for an estate listing captured a resident that had long since passed, according to Tim Binnall of *Coast-to-Coast AM*.

The photographer was pre-warned that the building in Tennessee was "haunted" by the owner because it "was used as an army hospital during the Civil War." With the limited medical supplies, most soldiers did not survive.

The photographer did not see anyone or anything as he was taking photos, leading him to agree "to the possibility that the unnerving image could have captured a Civil War ghost." It is even more likely when you know that "around 155 Confederate soldiers died in the field where the anomaly was seen." ◆



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THE NEW TRAILER FOR THE 'SCREAM' REBOOT IS OUT NOW

By Lisa Quigley, The Lineup

Photo: Spyglass Media Group

One of horror's most beloved "final girls," Sidney Prescott — portrayed by Neve Campbell — is back, and she's pissed. The trailer for the latest in the *Scream* franchise has dropped — and fans are indeed screaming.

Joining Campbell to reprise their original roles are Courteney Cox and David Arquette. Fans new and old are wondering the same thing: Will our favorite "final girl" finally find the closure and peace she deserves?

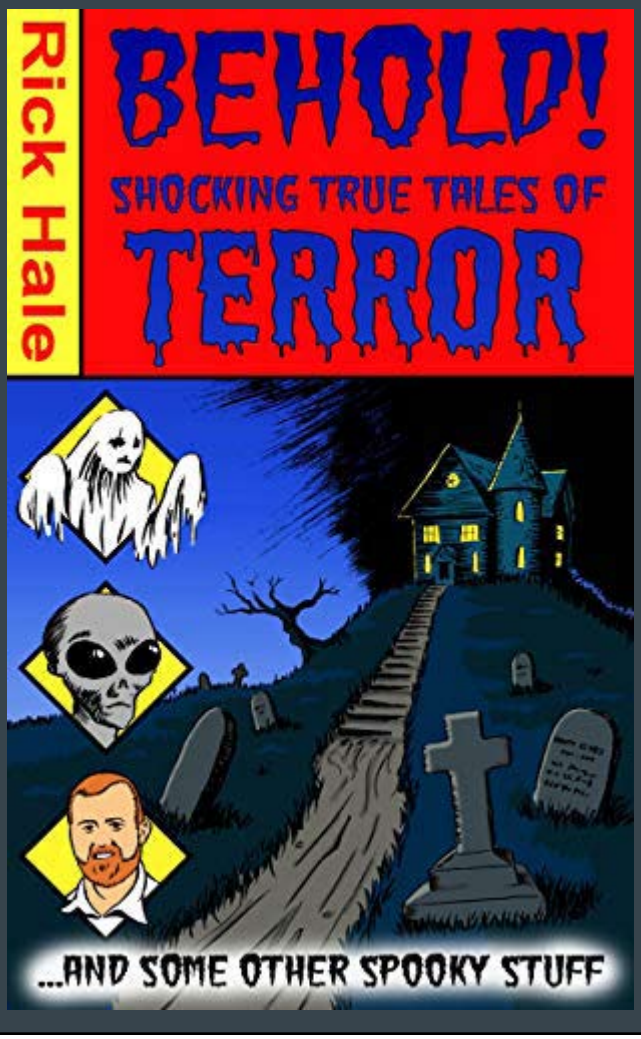
The trailer reveals an opening scene featuring Jenna Ortega as Tara Carpenter — who avid thriller fans may recognize as Ellie from the TV show *You* on Netflix. In the all-too-familiar trope, the phone is ringing (never a good omen for a *Scream* character!).

In a heart-pounding sequence, Tara realizes the phone call is coming from someone more sinister than a friend; when she opens the front door, she is stabbed — but she manages to get the door shut.

Next, Tara uses an app on her phone to lock all the doors in the house, causing brief but fleeting relief — because in true slasher style, the locks immediately release, and our infamous masked killer enters the home.

What follows from there is a spine-tingling sequence of clips, with original cast members joining a new crew of teenage targets to face (once again!) this masked menace. Sydney, armed with a gun, proclaims she won't rest until the killer who has terrorized her entire life is finally — finally! — in the ground.

With a blend of new faces and familiar cast members, this latest in the popular horror franchise appears to offer something to old and new fans alike. The chills of nostalgia, the thrill of an old enemy, the terror of being the newest target — ready or not, *Scream* is coming for us all in January 2022. ◆



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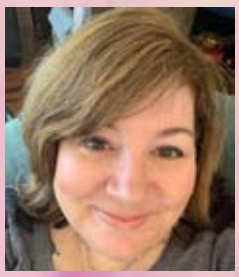

With Co-Hosts
Karen Frazier &
Cheryl Knight-Wilson

MADISON SMITH:
A Teen Investigator's Paranormal Journey

By Cheryl Knight

Madison Smith is a shy 14-year-old, who loves creating drawings and designs on her tablet, researching history, and being an actor at the Factory of Fear haunted attraction in Moline, IL. She also loves investigating the paranormal.

Madison was intrigued by the paranormal at the age of four while watching paranormal videos on YouTube.

"I got hooked and wanted to learn more," she said.

It was after she turned 10 when Madison attended her first paranormal investigation. And four years later, she's still investigating.

"I think the paranormal is interesting. I love to learn about the spirits and their past lives. I think it's fun to learn about places and then be able to have the ghost communicate in one form or another to me," Madison explained.

Her primary goal during investigations is capturing paranormal evidence to prove to skeptics that ghosts do exist.

"Once at a location called Rock Island in Illinois, I made contact with a spirit and have never forgotten what it was like," she said.

Madison has taken her love of paranormal investigation and turned it into a podcast, "Spoopy Talk With Host Madison Smith." (Stay tuned for the story behind the show's title!)

Madison recently spoke with *Paranormal Underground* magazine about her paranormal journey, including her investigations, podcast, and paranormal wishlist.

* * * * *

Madison loves to draw, research history, and interview investigators on her radio show, "Spoopy Talk."

Q: Tell us about yourself. When did your interest in the paranormal begin?

Madison: I have always had an interest in the paranormal. I watched a lot of shows early on, including *My Paranormal Adventure*, which started when I was 10 years old.

My dad got me tickets for an investigation at the Renwick Mansion in Davenport, Iowa, put on by Ghost Crier. We were told that, because of my age, if I was not good I would have to leave. I was told after the investigation that I was better behaved then most adults. I had a lot of great questions and was very hands-on with the gear. I was asked to keep in touch, and from that night I was hooked and made lifelong friends with Daniel Klaes and Chris Sutton, who were part of the investigation.

Q: Have you had any personal paranormal experiences prior to investigating? If so, what happened?

Madison: When I was really young, I remember seeing things in our house I could not explain, including shadows and sounds.

Q: What was your family's reaction when you told them you wanted to start investigating?

Madison: My family supports me in every way. My mom and dad have been there for me since the start. My dad drives me to investigations and helps carry and set up my gear and booths.

→

SPENGLER

Prior to investigating a location, Madison researches the site. She feels it's important to know the history of each building.

When I started investigating, my dad was the biggest skeptic in the world. But in the past three years, he has seen and heard things that have changed his mind. My mom was always a believer and has seen and heard things her whole life.

I have heard from a lot of investigators who said they had to hide these things from their family and friends. Thankfully, mine support me 100%, which makes it so much easier for me. But, I try to get all my homework done at school. If I don't have good grades, my parents say I can't keep investigating. It really motivates me to do well in school!

Q: Tell us about some of your favorite paranormal investigations, including any evidence captured.

Madison: My very first investigation was at Renwick Mansion in Davenport, Iowa. It was very exciting. We had a picture fall off the wall, and also I had my braid pulled.

Since then, I have been to a lot of pretty cool places to investigate, including Malvern Manor, the Villisca Ax Murder House, Farrar School, Eloise Asylum, and Mineral Springs Hotel to name a few. My favorite location is only 15 minutes from me ... the old YMCA in Rock Island, Illinois.

During the investigation at the old YMCA building, I had a race with a ghost, and at the end, Aaron Thompson with Ghost Crier caught an EVP of the ghost saying, "Madi won."

Q: How do you prepare for an investigation?

Madison: I like to do a little research before we leave for the ghost hunt, so I know the history of the building and its people.

To pass the time on the long drive to locations, I use my phone to watch videos and play games. It clears my mind in a way so I can be ready for the ghost hunt.

Madison works as an actor at the Factory of Fear attraction in Moline, IL, voted a top 10 haunted house by HauntedIllinois.com.

Q: How do you protect yourself during an investigation?

Madison: I normally always have my crystals on me, and I also have a necklace with my dog Ruby's ashes. She is my para guard dog. She was a Boston Terrier and is missed so much. At the end of an investigation, I also usually just tell the spirits, "I'm leaving now, and I loved spending time with you. But you need to stay here."

Q: What equipment do you use during your investigations?

Madison: I use lighted dowsing rods from North Canton Paranormal Detectives, Milo my para pooch and Ghostbuster Crypto Chords music box from Vortex Ghost Gear, along with my pendulums.

Q: Being a teen investigator, what type of obstacles have you dealt with?

Madison: I have come across locations where I am too young to visit since I'm only 14. I've also had people attack me verbally, saying I'm too young to investigate or I am going to end up hurt because I don't know what I'm doing. What I say to them is I am the next generation of investigators, and everything I do is under the eyes of seasoned investigators. I never investigate by myself.

I have a very supportive family who knows this is what I love to do, and my para family is always there for me too. The positive people have outweighed the negative ones. Everyone has their own opinions of what they think of me. I am OK with that. I respect their opinion even if it's different than mine.

To all the young kids out there who want to investigate, I hope I am an inspiration to them to do it. If kids are interested, I tell them my personal stories about my investigations. I think if I tell them about it, they will feel less afraid of the paranormal. And I think ghost hunting can help kids at school who have been teased and bullied.

→

Madison never investigates alone. She is always guided by a seasoned investigator.

For me, ghost hunting gives me a comfortable place to feel welcome. I feel so safe and comfortable when I am in the zone with my other paranormal investigator friends. I really want to get more kids involved in the paranormal. If kids are interested, I am open to talking to them.

I have a lot of supporters in the paranormal, including the owners of locations that let me investigate for a discount or for free and other investigators who have taken me under their wings to teach me the ins and outs of investigating and finding my way. Also, the tech inventors who have given me tools to try out at investigations and demos.

Q: What is your message for other young people who have an interest in paranormal investigation?

Madison: I have experienced paranormal activity in daylight and at night. This is a good way to investigate two locations in one day. I would tell them don't be afraid. Always have someone with you; never go alone because it could be dangerous.

The biggest advice I can give kids is do what you love to do. I have no special abilities, and I know there are a lot of kids out there who do. WE are the future of the paranormal world, and without us learning, the field dies. So with that said, follow your dreams and don't let others break those dreams.

Q: What is the funniest thing that has happened to you during a paranormal investigation?

Madison: I was involved in a game of hide and seek with a ghost at Renwick Mansion. I, along with a couple of others, would hide, and then several groups used the Spiritous app and SB7 to try to find us with the help of the spirits in the building.

Since I was so small, I got stuffed in a kitchen cabinet (glad I wasn't claustrophobic). They walked past my spot quit a few times but they did finally find me.

Q: Have you ever been scared during an investigation?

Madison: I really can't say I have been scared by a location thus far. When I investigate I normally am always with a seasoned investigator. As I am still a Padawan (per Richard Estes), that's my Star Wars tag, I try to be with someone who can help me get better and learn new techniques from them.

So, truthfully, the one thing that scares me is doing

something wrong at an investigation or group setting. I am a shy person until I get to know you. I'm that person in the back soaking up the knowledge from the experts in the field.

Q: Tell us about your podcast, "Spoopy Talk With Host Madison Smith."

Madison: "Spoopy Talk" is my podcast that is on twice a month on Sundays at 6 ET/5 CT. It's on Spreaker and part of Paranormal Buzz Radio. My show tries to bring insight into the world of the paranormal, and my guests include paranormal investigators.

I have had a lot of awesome guests so far, including Nick Groff, Elizabeth Saint, Daniel Klaes, and Megan Deputy with The Ghost Finders.

Everyone asks me what "Spoopy" means. Well it's spooky with a hint of fun. I was investigating with a dear friend Sarah Stream, and she asked me a question. I said, "It's sure spoopy in here." She laughed because I meant to say spooky, but said spoopy instead.

I have two people to thank for my chance to create it. First is Sharla Hardin with Girls vs. Ghosts. She reached out to me when I was 11 with the idea of having a podcast with a young investigator. She worked with me a lot, as I was hesitant at first. So, she created this monster I am today!

Then there is Shea Carroll, who stepped in when Sharla got too busy with her personal life and brought me over to the Paranormal Buzz Radio site.

Q: What locations are on your wishlist to investigate in the future?

Madison: My dream locations to visit include Alcatraz and the Winchester Mystery House in California, as well as Waverly Hills Sanatorium in Louisville Kentucky. I would love to be invited to the U.K. and investigate a castle one day. And investigating a larger prison or hospital/sanitarium is always big on my list of places to visit.

Q: What else should our readers know about you?

Madison: I don't consider myself a celebrity at all. I am not a Zak Baggins or Tennessee Wraith Chasers. I'm Madison Smith, a 14-year-old girl just trying to find my way along in the paranormal world. I have a lot to learn and have plenty of mentors to fall back on when I need help in my journey.

* * * * *

To follow Madison's paranormal journey, follow her on Facebook at Madison Paranormal Investigation. ◆

During paranormal investigations, Madison uses lighted dowsing rods from North Canton Paranormal Detectives, Milo my para pooch and Ghostbuster Crypto Chords music box from Vortex Ghost Gear, and her pendulums.

Madison has investigated Wildwood Sanitarium, Malvern Manor, the Villisca Ax Murder House, Farrar School, Eloise Asylum, Mineral Springs Hotel, and many other locations.

Signs From the SPIRIT WORLD

By Emma Dunlop-Walters, All Things Paranormal

When we lose someone we love, it's natural to search for signs that they are close to us. Losing someone also brings the question "What happens when we die?" into sharp focus. We all have our own beliefs when it comes to signs from the spirit world. Here are some common ones that people report and where each originates from.

White Feathers

They say that when white feathers appear, angels and loved ones are near. A lot of people say that when they needed a sign, a white feather would float down in front of them or a feather would appear in an odd place.

The origin of this belief is not clear, but it could be because angel feathers are white. White feathers are considered to be a message of hope and encouragement when you need it most.

Robins

Robins are a sign of life and good fortune, which is why they are associated with the spirit world. This belief comes from the story of St Mungo, the patron Saint of Glasgow, who prayed over the body of a dead robin and brought it back to life. Since then, millions of people have reported feeling closer to their loved ones when they see a robin.

Robins are also heavily associated with Christmas, which is a time when loved ones are missed the most. In some cultures, a robin tapping on the window is a sign of death, while others believe it is a message from a loved one.

Coins

It is not clear where the belief that coins are signs from loved ones came from, but it is something that people consider to be significant. People have reported finding coins in odd places, where there was nothing there before.

Spirits want to send signs that capture our attention, and maybe that is why they use coins. Coins are considered valuable, so maybe they are trying to show us our worth in a way that doesn't frighten us.

Meaningful Songs

Have you ever turned on the radio or walked into a store and heard a song that is important to you? One that has special meaning at just the right time? This could be a sign from the spirit world.

Some people might dismiss this as a coincidence, but others have reported only hearing that meaningful song when they are feeling low or need a sign. It could be your loved one's way of subtly reassuring you that they are with you.

In Conclusion

Most spirits do not want to do us harm or scare us. This is why the messages we receive from them are usually subtle. We all need a bit of a boost sometimes, and receiving these signs can help us. ◆

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I can't wait to connect!

The Ghosts That Haunt NOTTINGHAM

By Emma Dunlop-Walters, All Things Paranormal

Nottingham in Central England's Nottinghamshire is a beautiful city filled with legends and stories — from Robin Hood to the ghost of a French queen. The city is home to some very spooky locations, including the oldest pub in England and a courthouse with a very dark past.

Let's take a look at some of the most haunted sites in Nottingham.

The Galleries of Justice

In the center of the city sits the majestic National Justice Museum (known as the Galleries of Justice Museum). This imposing building has a very dark history. The site began its life as a courthouse in 1375. Then sometime around 1449 it became a prison and a place for public executions.

This grim history combined with spooky ghostly sightings has led to the building becoming an epicenter for paranormal activity. Visitors report suddenly becoming drowsy or have a feeling that someone is watching them. Black shadows have also been spotted, and people have reported being pushed by an invisible force.

The first wooden Nottingham Castle was built in 1068. This shot of the Nottingham Castle Gate House was taken in 2009. The ghosts that haunt the castle and its underground caves and basement rooms include the legendary Queen Isabella.

Nottingham Castle

The original castle was burned to the ground in 1651, and the current mansion-like building was erected in 1678. Whilst the original structure is long gone, the spirits remain. One of the ghostly castle residents is reportedly the spirit of Queen Isabella, the wife of Edward II, who is said to be one of the most notorious women in English history.

She joined a nunnery to cleanse her soul after leading a rebellion with her lover, Mortimer, against her husband. Mortimer was sentenced to death for his crimes and sent to London, leaving Isabella to plead for him. The story goes that she went mad with grief and was incarcerated in Norfolk where she died. But it seems her spirit returned to Nottingham Castle.

Visitors have reported hearing a woman screaming and shouting within the castle and surrounding areas, including the local pub, Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, where a group of men reported hearing the wailing coming from the castle. Patrons also report hearing a disembodied

Pictured at far left: The Victorian Civil Courtroom at the National Justice Museum (photo by Fayerollinson/ Wikimedia Commons).

Pictured second from left: The interior of the Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem pub and inn (photo by Brookie/Wikimedia Commons).

woman's voice shouting in French, which Queen Isabella reportedly did when Mortimer was being taken away.

Haunted Pubs and Inns

The drinks behind the bar aren't the only spirits you could come across in the pubs in Nottingham. The city is home to some of the oldest pubs in England, including Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem, which was built in 1149. The pub is nestled into the sandstone wall that is connected to Nottingham Castle.

Previous landlords are said to haunt the pub, alongside some haunted objects. One of the spooky possessions is a model of a ship that is said to have been left at the pub by a sailor who couldn't pay his bill. The model is covered with dust, because the few people who have cleaned it have died a mysterious death within a year of cleaning it.

An antique chair is also an item of interest in the pub, because women claim to have become pregnant after sitting in the chair!

Nottingham is the perfect place for anyone who loves legends, stories, and ghost hunting. If you are ever in the area, make sure to stop by and check out the local "haunts." ◆

Japan Airlines Flight 1628: UFO ENCOUNTER OVER ALASKA

By Cheryl Lynn Carter, cheryllynncarter.com

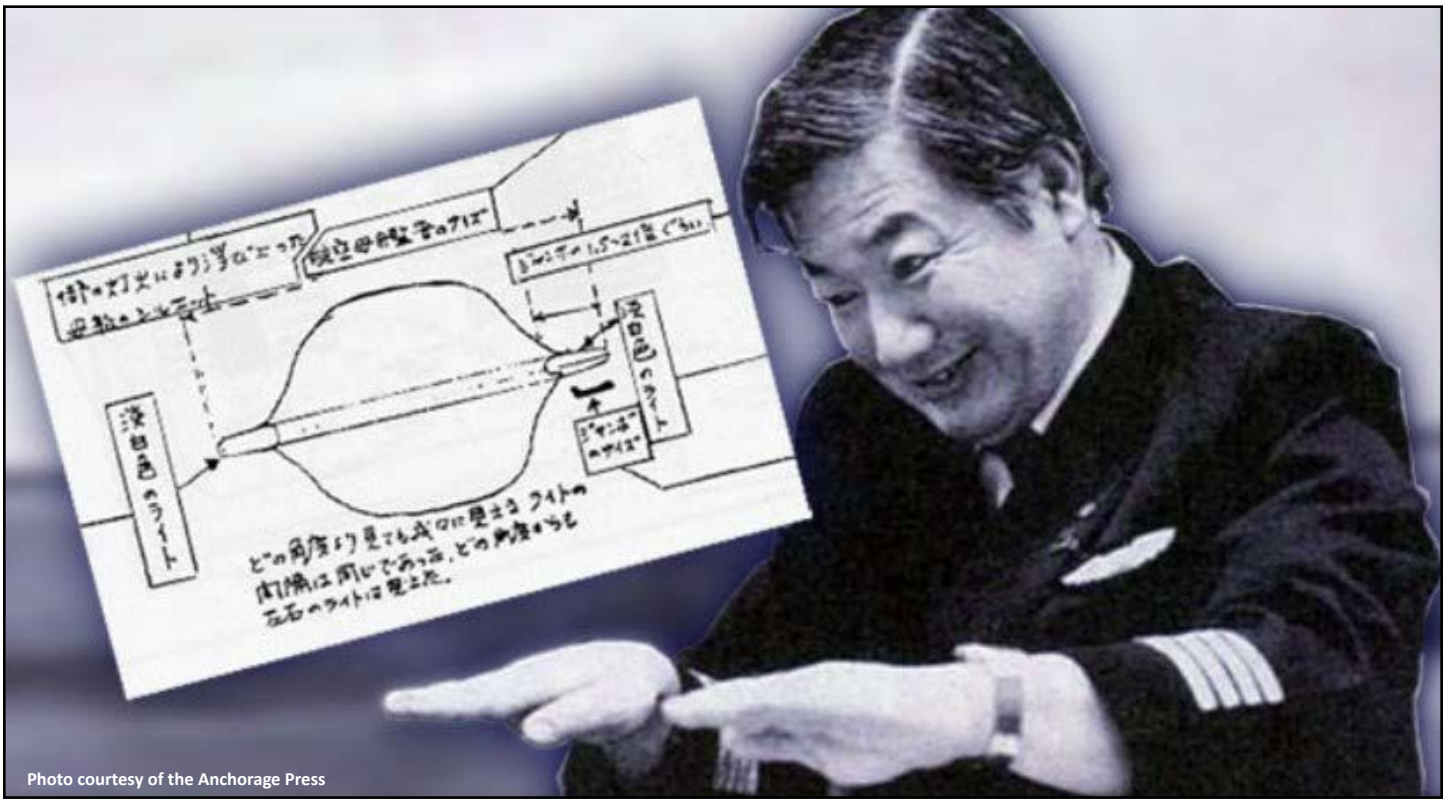

Photo courtesy of the Anchorage Press

On November 17, 1986, a Japanese Boeing 174-200F cargo aircraft — Japan Airlines (JAL) Flight 1628 — was flying through the Alaska Triangle and just over Anchorage on its return from Paris. The cargo onboard was Beaujolais wine. The crew included Captain Kenju Terauchi, an ex-fighter pilot and senior pilot with more than 10,000 hours flight experience; co-pilot 1st Officer Takanori Tamefuji; and flight engineer Yoshio Tsukuba.

At 17:11, while flying at 35,000 feet, Captain Terauchi noticed what appeared to be the presence of some additional traffic in his vicinity. At first he thought the lights were military jets on a special mission, since they were so close to Russia and not far from two military bases in the area. However, when the lights had not changed course, he realized they were something else; something that would continue to follow them for about 400 miles.

The strange lights remained at the bottom of their plane until they encountered the two UFOs to their left. One of the objects appeared to be twice the size of the aircraft, while the other was smaller. The crew reported seeing flashing lights following their plane.

Air traffic controllers also tracked something unidentifiable on their radar that was as close as five miles away from the plane. The pilot said that at one point one of the UFOs appeared directly in front of the plane at a very close distance. The crew attempted to photograph the aircraft with an Alpha 7000 camera. However, the auto focus did not function correctly. Even after switching to manual, the shutter wouldn't close.

Captain Terauchi described the crafts as disappearing within the clouds and reappearing as if they did not want to be observed. "The thing was flying as if there was no such thing as gravity. It sped up quickly, stopped, then flew at our speed, in our direction, so that it appeared to be standing still. The next instance, it changed course like it had overcome gravity, which is impossible for a normal plane to do," he said.

Illustration of the third UFO observed by Captain Terauchi and his crew over Alaska in 1986 (photo by JMK/Wikimedia Commons).

At 17:19, Captain Terauchi notified Anchorage air traffic control. At this point, the UFOs were being tracked on military and civilian radar and verified by a high-level administrator in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In an attempt to elude the UFOs, the pilot requested permission from the ground crew to fly at a lower altitude and drop 4,000 feet. However, even after making several attempts, he could not elude them.

When the objects disappeared, Captain Terauchi noticed a pale band of light that mirrored their altitude, speed, and direction. He informed Anchorage air traffic control; however, they saw nothing on their radar. Upon flying over Fairbanks, the city lights helped illuminate the object, to which he believed to be the outline of a giant spacecraft, which he referred to as the "Mother Ship." The encounter continued to last about 50 minutes before the UFOs suddenly disappeared.

Upon returning to Narita International Airport in Japan, Captain Terauchi and 1st Officer Tamefuji gave statements about their encounter. At the FAA, Vice Admiral Donald D. Engen was briefed concerning the incident. The following day, he and John Callahan, the FAA division chief of the Accidents and Investigations branch, held a briefing where a video taken of both the radar data and voice tapes playing was shown. Details reported by the military controller indicated that the UFOs had been traveling thousands of miles per hour as they maneuvered in the airspace around JAL 1628.

Included at the meeting were members of the FBI, CIA, President Ronald Reagan's Scientific Study Team, and Captain Terauchi. Upon the conclusion of the meeting, everyone present was informed that this incident was a secret and that the meeting never took place. Upon concluding the meeting, officials took possession of the presented data. Callahan managed to retain the FAA's original report, Captain Terauchi's report, and the original video.

On March 5, 1987, after a three-month investigation, the FAA was prepared to release their findings at a press conference. However, although officials at the FAA considered the data to represent the first instance of recorded radar data indicating a UFO, instead of disclosure, Paul Steucke, the FAA Public Information Officer in Anchorage, issued a retraction. He stated that what the controllers actually observed was a "split radar image."

This sometimes occurs when the radar screen gets intermittent blips every three seconds. He concluded there was not enough information to confirm that something was actually there and the flight crew was most likely merely seeing lights.

In December 1986, Captain Terauchi gave an interview to two journalists from Kyodo News in Japan. Shortly afterward, JAL grounded him for disclosing the information. He was given a desk job, but a few years later, he was reinstated. John Callahan retired from the FAA and became an industry consultant where he occasionally talked about the JAL 1628 UFO incident. ◆

A CASE OF LYCANTHROPY:

MY VISIT WITH WEREWOLVES – PART 2

Paul Dale Roberts, Halo Paranormal Investigations

In the last issue of the magazine, I shared my interview with two self-proclaimed werewolves, Lolita Moonshadow and Katrina Kanine. In this issue, I'd like to share another interview with "The Mundane."

I got a call from a 21-year-old woman who told me she was a werewolf. She called herself "The Mundane." I decided to meet with her and hear her story.

We met at Starbucks in Vallejo, California. It was a halfway meeting point between her home in Fremont and mine in Sacramento. I had never meet The Mundane before, but I was able to spot her easily. She wore a cat ears head band, a pentagram ring, and a black T-shirt that read "Live Animal." Not hard to find at all.

She was busy drawing. After introducing myself, she showed me some of her wonderful fantasy artwork. It was as good as science fiction, fantasy artist Boris Vallejo's work. Then, we began to chat.

Meet 'The Mundane'

About four years ago, The Mundane was bit by a mountain lion while doing voluntary work at the San Diego Zoo. The male mountain lion was playing with her at first and had her arm in his mouth, then he got rough and actually bit her.

The Mundane told me that everyone has an animal spirit within their being, and when she was bitten, it brought out her wolf-like attributes that she was already born with.

When she was bitten that day, the essence of the wolf took over her persona. It possessed her. She said that she soon had heightened senses, including hearing, smelling, seeing, and even touching. She can feel the fluctuations around a person's body.

When she became a werewolf, the hair on her arms became dark and she even grew an extreme amount of hair on her legs. But she does not display canine teeth. The Mundane was born and raised a Catholic but has embraced Pagan beliefs. She craves meat, has eaten raw meat, but mostly orders medium-rare steaks. During a full moon, her senses skyrocket in intensity. This happens the day before a full moon, during the full moon, and after a full moon – three nights of sensationally heightened senses.

She believes in the afterlife; listens to Celtic, coun-

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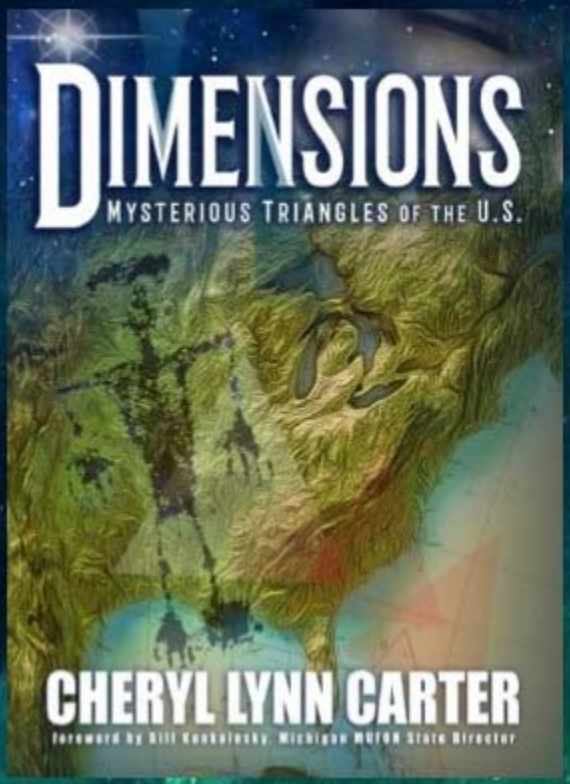

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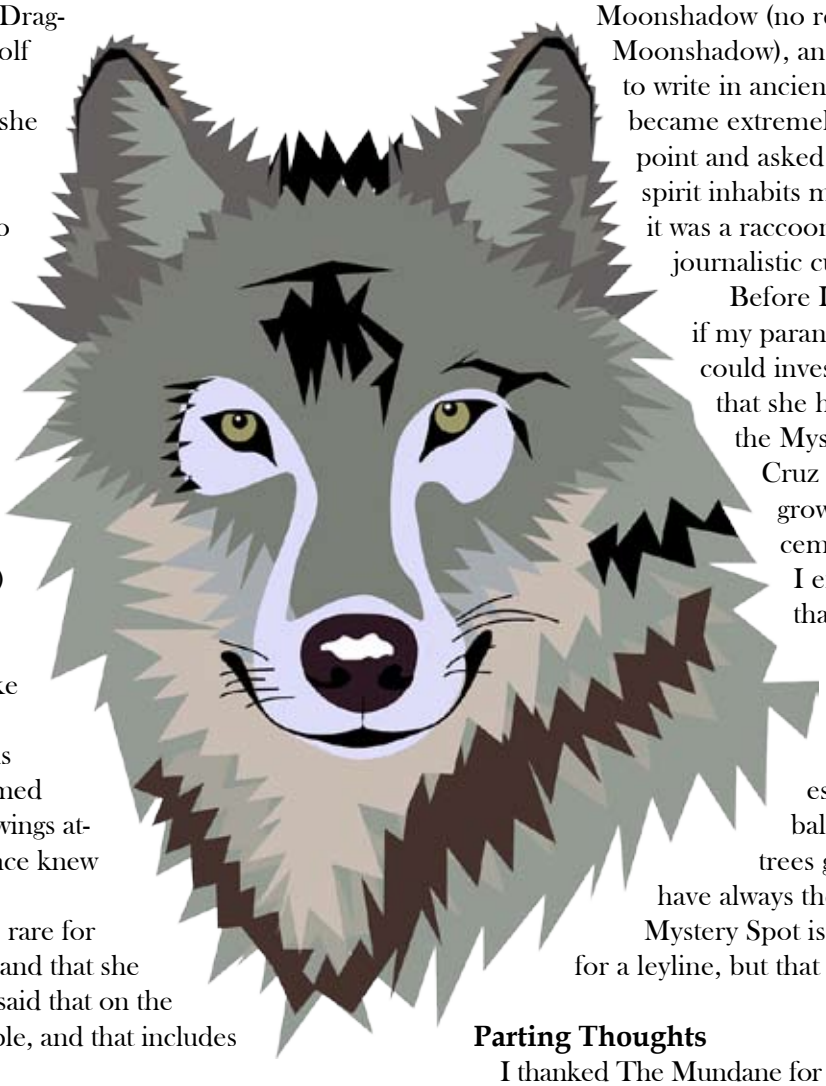
try, and blues music; and loves to hunt. In fact, she will hunt deer with a long bow. However, she adores animals and will help domesticated animals, including taking in stray dogs. She talked fondly about her black Labrador retriever, named Brutus Maximus. Vultures, ravens, and crows follow her around. She is also a falconer and able to hunt with falcons. To pass time, The Mundane sometimes plays Dungeons & Dragons, Masquerade, and Werewolf Apocalypse.

Silver can't harm her, but she has heard that silver can cause an allergic reaction to some werewolves. She doesn't like to be in enclosed spaces, but she does live a normal working life as a hostess at Olive Garden. She has a boyfriend and said her boyfriend is not "awakened," but he's also a werewolf. None of her relatives are werewolves. She knows a few vampires (energy and physical vampires) and said that werewolves and vampires are not mortal enemies, as Hollywood would like everyone to believe.

She also revealed that she is friends with a were-panther named Cassandra, who has actual bat wings attached to her back. She also once knew a were-moose!

The Mundane said that it's rare for werewolves to really transform and that she can't transform at all. She also said that on the energy plane, anything is possible, and that includes living, fire-breathing dragons.



A Werewolf With Psychic Abilities?

The Mundane explained to me that she is a slight empath and that when she lived in Sacramento, she would hear noises at night and the lights turned on randomly on their own. At her friend's house in Sacramento, there was an explosion heard in the house, and when they investigated the explosion, they discovered a plastic mug had shattered into five pieces for no apparent reason.

One of the psychic abilities that she has is being able to know when her friends will call her or visit with her before it happens. Her sixth-sense ability seems to be centered on her closest associates.

The strangest part of my interview came when she explained how certain entities inhabit her body, including Isis the Dragon, Dartanian the Raptor (yep, a dinosaur inhabits her body), Thane the Chinese Dragon — Protector of the 4th Tower, and Kata the Demon, which is in the form of a black spectral tiger.

The Mundane's guardian spirit is a Phoenix, named Moonshadow (no relation to Lolita Moonshadow), and she has learned to write in ancient pagan runes. I became extremely curious at this point and asked her what animal spirit inhabits my body? She said it was a raccoon, because of my journalistic curiosity.

Before I left, she asked if my paranormal team HPI could investigate two areas that she has frequented, the Mystery Spot in Santa Cruz and some overgrown weed-infested cemetery in Fremont. I explained to her that I have been to the Mystery Spot in Santa Cruz and found the place mysterious, especially when balls roll up hill and trees grow to a slant. I have always theorized that The Mystery Spot is a point of origin for a leyline, but that is only my theory.

Parting Thoughts

I thanked The Mundane for talking with me and headed home. Being a paranormal investigator, I have investigated so many unusual claims, including numerology, psychic phenomena, the Wicca culture, werewolves, vampires, UFOs, cults, secret societies, ghosts, and demonic possession. And I soon will be investigating the last of the Lemurians at Mt. Shasta, along with Bigfoot. Plus, I have always wanted to investigate doppelgangers, incubus, succubus, Mothman, men in black, Reptilians, sea serpents, zombies, and anything else considered paranormal.

So if you are reading this article and have something unusual you want me to check out, please contact me. I will respond promptly, because stepping into the paranormal is my business. ◆

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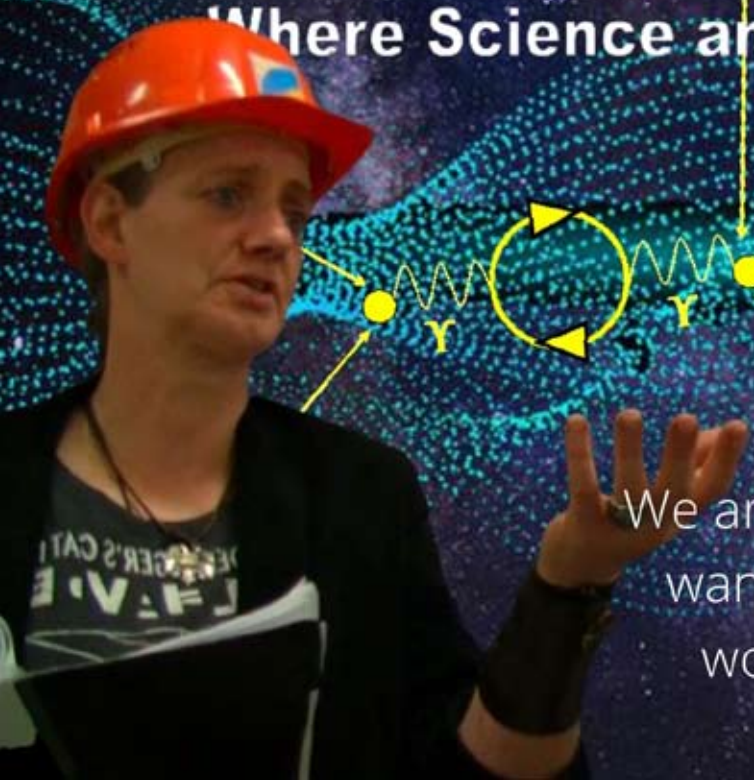

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A Masked Visitor From the Afterworld

By Maria Anna van Driel

So you prefer to read about dark and ghostly stories? Well, if you think you are brave enough to step into the reality of the paranormal world ... let me take you on a journey into the world of the unexplained by telling you one of my recent experiences from the realms of the beyond.

It's a real-life story about the nightly paranormal visits afflicting a young student, and how a "masked visitor" from the afterworld was stepping into our realm after it kept himself in the shadows for almost a year.

Whether you believe in ghosts or not, it's tough not to get freaked out when you are alone and hear something go bump in the night or even hear a disembodied voice ... maybe calling your name from the darkest corner of your garden or showing its misshapen face in the upper corner of your bedroom. The latter happened to a college student in his early 20s who was studying hospital management during his last semester.

But this story does not start with the horrifying paranormal experiences he was experiencing. This story from the afterworld started approximately 1.5 years prior to the evening before I received a phone call to visit the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in a German hospital.

It had to be around 9 p.m. when a strong feeling of restlessness came over me — an odd feeling what was uncomfortable and "out of balance." This feeling literally knocked me to the floor each time I stopped walking and stood still. It felt so strong that it made me flee from my home!

I needed to move, to speed up, so I got in my car and drove to the nearest highway. Luckily, I live in Germany, meaning that 180 km p/h (112 mph) or faster is not something other motorists complain about. On the contrary.

Anyway, going this speed seemed to help me stay ahead of whatever it was creating this nerve-racking feeling that was twisting my stomach. It took me approximately one hour driving at this speed to shake most of the creepy stuff that was trying to get a hold on me.

The Next Day ... the Phone Rang

A friend, living in Prieste-witz in Germany, called with a request. His father-in-law had been admitted to the ICU unit after having a cerebral infarction. The hospital staff had decided to induce an artificial coma to relieve him of further stress, hoping he would recover.

Twice I sat next to the man's bed. It was during the second time that I saw him (his transparent spirit/energy) standing at the foot of his own hospital bed. I could clearly see the outlines of his body (energy) that stood out razor sharp against the blue/gray walls of the hospital room and how firmly he held the white-sprayed iron bars of the bed his body was lying in. Even though the energy of this man looked exactly the same as his biological body that was being kept alive by multiple life support devices, his energy was drenched in a dim yellow light.

Some say that as soon as someone is balancing on the edge between life and death, there is a form of "know-

ing" that rises or occurs. Others say that those who cross over feel nothing but peace. From what I personally have witnessed in the final moments of someone's Earthly life, this is not always the case.

The man looked confused and, while inaudible to me, screamed at himself to wake the hell up. Even though his voice was inaudible to me, his body language and facial expressions spoke a clear language. He expressed his outrage and incomprehension about the situation he was trapped in for several minutes. Then he stopped, turned his head toward me, briefly looked at me, turned around, walked out of the hospital room, and disappeared into the long corridor.

I stood up and scanned the corridor, but he was nowhere to be found, which was absolutely no surprise to me. I turned to the man lying in the hospital bed. Even though his chest was moving by means of the life-support devices, he was now only a shadow of what we know as the human species.

"I am sorry I didn't have enough time to comfort your confusion," I told him.

Skipping the private moments of the family members afterwards ... time passed and this experience faded into the background of my mind until I stopped thinking about it. Sure, the family and I kept in contact, but it wasn't until 1.5 years later that this story started all over again, but now in a different form.

The Night Terrors

It was September 2020 when I received a phone call from the same family. The son of the house was ravaged by paranormal activity at night so severe that he could not focus on his study, lost most of his appetite, and was developing a sleep disorder.

The family feared that a demonic presence was terrorizing their son. So, an appointment was made for me to listen to the young student's story and to figure out what it was he was so terrified of.

As I drove into the street, I saw the boy's father waiting outside. His mother hurried out when she heard my car pull into the driveway. And as only a mother can say when it concerns the safety of her children, "Please, help my son."

"Don't worry, we will figure this one out," was my reply.

The father was dealing with the situation by showing me his new garden: a two-meter-high wooden fence, a small pond with dimmed lights, and a terrace with a new sofa. We sat down, the coffee was poured, and the father immediately began to tell his side of the story.

Even though dusk began to fall, I could clearly see a pitch-black figure standing on the other side of the garden ... observing us. Oddly enough, this figure didn't seem to belong there. To me, it felt as if it was observing my actions and reactions. I watched it as it was standing there, motionless, while the father was telling his experiences.

After a while, the son and his aunt, who had her adorable four-year-old white bull terrier with her, joined us. During our little chat about some everyday things, I saw that the son was starting to get nervous ... almost afraid. I wondered if he noticed the dark figure standing in the garden. I asked him to tell me what had happened in the past weeks. What was it that made him scared to go to sleep?

This is what he told me, and as he did, something that looked like a long silver thread ran past him ...

"For weeks now I have trouble sleeping. I mean, I don't feel secure in my bedroom any more. I hear strange noises in the walk-in-closet in my parents' bedroom ... even the dog growls toward it and refuses to go in there.

"Some nights ago, I was home with my girlfriend and my aunt. I dozed off a bit. I think I opened my eyes, I am not sure, but I saw a dark, deformed, and most demonic face appearing from the upper corner of my bedroom. It became larger and larger until the moment it detached itself from the wall and, with an enormous speed, headed in my direction. It felt so real, I thought it was going to kill me for sure!"

The young student broke down in tears; he could not go on with his story. His aunt, sitting between us, took over the conversation and explained the following ...

"My nephew and his girlfriend were both falling asleep while sitting on the bed and in front of the TV. I heard how my nephew's breathing was changing and in a strange way. Suddenly, his body contracted in a most horrifying manner and his breathing went in reverse ... his eyes opened wide, as if he was seeing something I could not see. I will never forget the sight of it. It really looked like a real-life horror movie!"

While the aunt was telling what she had witnessed, her nephew had, more or less, recovered from his emotional breakdown and said, "I have tried to think of any movie, but I cannot think of one that contains a scene or figure that is as scary as what I saw coming toward me from the upper corner of my bedroom."

"I will never forget the sight of it. It really looked like a real-life horror movie!"

While listening to what these people had encountered, the pitch-black figure standing in the garden began to walk away toward the railway track, and as he did, two words came to mind ... "connection" (which was the strongest word) and "mask." These two words proved to be of extreme value later that evening in revealing what was really going on.

Suddenly, the young student stood up and walked, without saying one word, toward the driveway. A dog started to bark at the end of the street, and I knew that his girlfriend was near. Several minutes later, she joined us, and right away another dog on the other end of the street barked. Anyway, this young woman turned out to be a psychic medium; however, she did not know how to handle all that she saw and heard.

Approximately 15 minutes after the son's girlfriend joined us, the father asked me if I could walk through the house and see if there is something present that might show itself. Accompanied with two other people, I walked through the house, starting with the walk-in-closet in the master bedroom. Except for picking up on the echoes of the thoughts and emotions of the family living there, I felt nothing out of the ordinary. So, I walked back into the hallway and headed for the son's bedroom. But, something drew my attention while passing by the kitchen ... an area in the house that was yet not mentioned in the stories told prior by the family.

A Connection Is Made

As I walked toward the kitchen, there was an energy boundary a few centimeters in front of the entrance. I backed up a little bit and then immediately took two steps forward, breaking through that boundary and entering the kitchen.

On the left of me, in a dark corner of the small room, a male figure sat at the kitchen table. I experienced this dense, dark shadow as an older man ... more like a grandfather. I instantly felt an intense confusion with the man and one side of his face was hanging down ... like melted candle wax.

Since I had entered the house, the white bull terrier had not left my side for a second. And, as a reflex, I kept in physical contact with the dog all the time.

I sat down at the kitchen table in the chair next to where the dark, echoing light representing the older man was sitting and kept repeating the words, "Connection. There is a connection." It turned out that the son's grandfather and his girlfriend's grandfather were colleagues.

And then it all came back ... the last Earthly moments of the father of the lady of the house, the ghostly apparition in the hospital, the grandfather of the son of the house. All the scattered pieces of the puzzle started to fall in place!

The scary, almost demonic, face the son had seen while falling asleep was the pain and confusion his grandfather had experienced while lying in an artificial coma ... yelling to himself, "Wake up! Wake up!" All these terrifying emotions caused his grandfather to translate them into a horrifying-looking mask as he was visiting his grandson from the afterworld.

It was time to explain it to the family members present that evening. As soon as it was clear that the grandfather was visiting his relatives and was presenting himself in the form of his confused emotions, a brief moment of shock was visible.

When everyone realized there was really nothing to be afraid of, no creepy entity from hell had entered their home, tears of relief and smiles were the result.

It is indeed a strange idea that when, for us, 1.5 years had gone by, the grandfather walked through the door and into that long hospital corridor just five minutes ago. In this we can say that it is more than logical that the grandfather was showing himself in this mask-like form because he was still processing the emotions and pain from the cerebral infarction he died from 1.5 years ago.

Time and reality are indeed strange events when one starts to think about them. ◆

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Lougan the Demon:
Stockton, CA House Cleansing

By Paul Dale Roberts, Halo Paranormal Investigations

Our team recently received a call from Ms. R., who does not want to be fully identified. Ms. R. lives in Stockton, California, and she relayed the following story.

Ms. R and two of her girlfriends were playing with a Ouija Board, and a name was spelled out on the board: Lougan. Ms. R soon learned that Lougan was a demon, as she soon began hearing whispering in her ear and a voice saying that he wanted to "hurt her bad." More shockingly, Ms. R said that she felt a wet tongue go across the back of her neck.

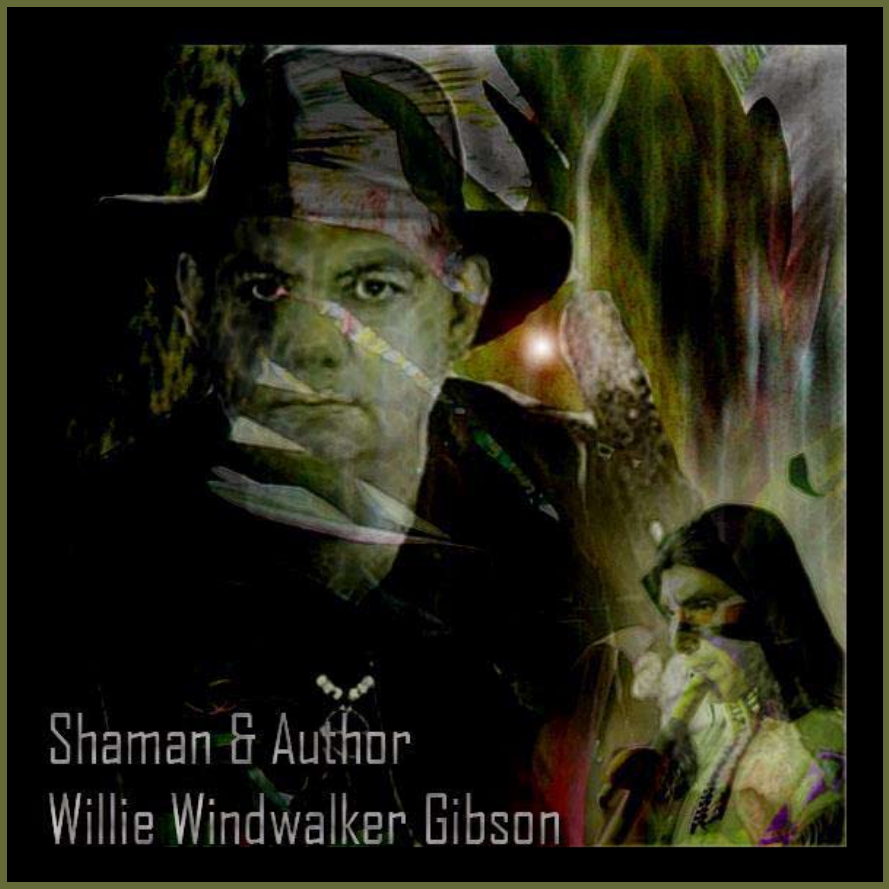
One day, Ms. R walked into the backyard and saw the ground near a big oak tree "breathing." The ground was going up and down like it was breathing. As this was happening, one of the oak tree branches began moving closer to her. She ran back into her house, found our team's paranormal hotline number, and called us.

Since Stockton was about 30 minutes away, Deanna Jaxine Stinson and I headed over to her home as quickly as possible. Ms. R didn't want an investigation; she only wanted a cleansing. So Deanna performed a metaphysical cleansing, and I conducted a Roman Catholic house blessing.

Deanna actually saw the demon when we were at the house performing the cleansing and blessing. She described the figure as having a handsome appearance, standing seven feet tall, and wearing a black cloak and black gloves. However, Deanna became frightened when the demon opened his mouth and displayed two sets of sharp teeth. When she saw this, the demon quickly vanished by back-stepping into the wall. Following Deanna's cleansing, I immediately started my own cleansing.

As the cleansing was being conducted, Ms. R passed out. I was able to revive her. A gust of warm air blew out the front door after I conducted my blessing. At the end of the cleansing and blessing, Ms. R felt like Lougan was finally expelled from her home, and she thanked us.

Ms. R said that the atmosphere in her home felt lighter and there was a positive feeling in her home. She did not feel like she personally needed a baptism, because she did not feel as if she had an attachment. She felt that the demon that had been tormenting her was only residing in the house and not within her body. ◆



Willie Windwalker Gibson

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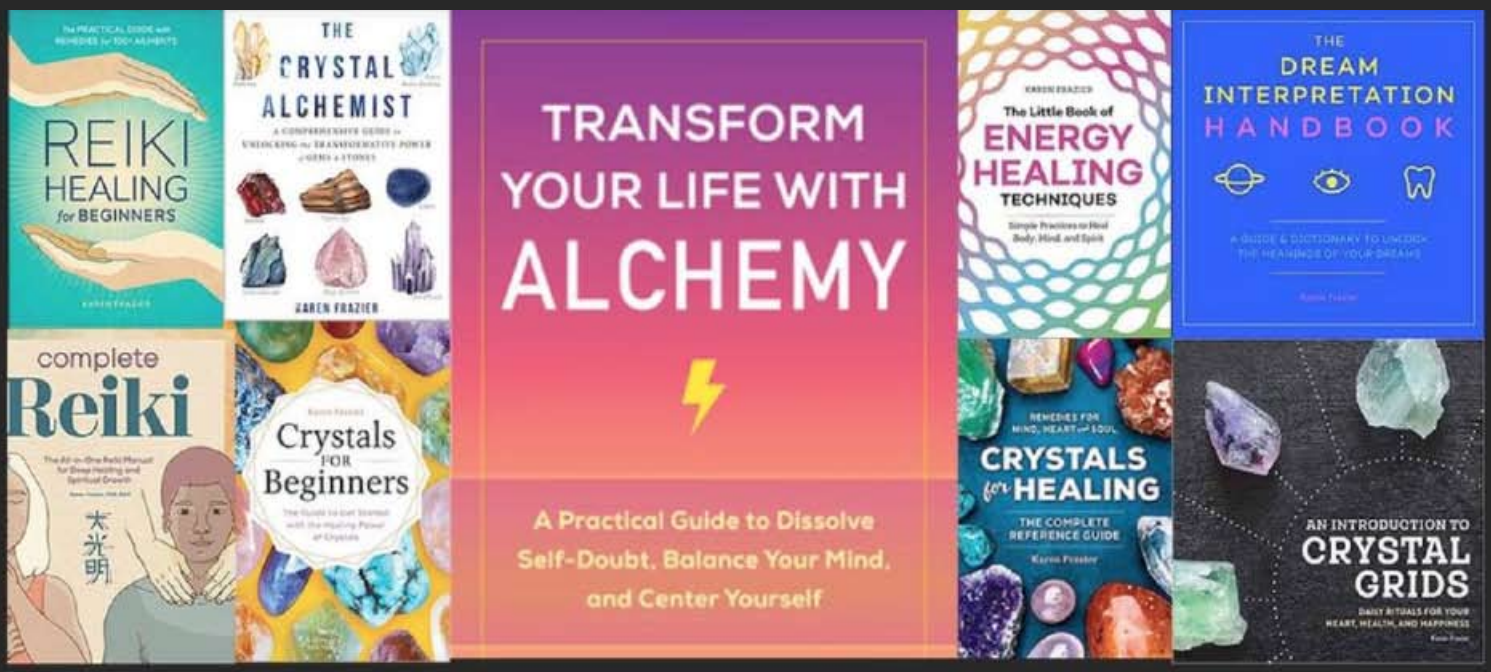
Are You Living Up to Your Personal Potential?



AuthorKarenFrazier.com

FINDING THE DIVINE

By Karen Frazier, AuthorKarenFrazier.com

My struggle with faith (and my lack of faith) has been one of the defining characteristics of my life. It's something I have believed to be true about myself for years — that faith has been extremely difficult for me to find.

I knew I wasn't a person of faith at quite an early age, although I kept quiet about it for years before I finally tentatively started mentioning it to people. I grew up in the Christian church. Even as a pre-adolescent girl, I just knew I didn't have the same depth of Christian belief as everyone else around me.

To make up for my lack of faith, I was the consummate young Christian scholar. I knew all the stories. I memorized more *Bible* verses than anyone else around me. I could argue theology with anyone and hold my own pretty darn well. I even surrounded myself with the Christian kids as my primary social group in hopes of obtaining some kind of a Jesus contact high. It never came.

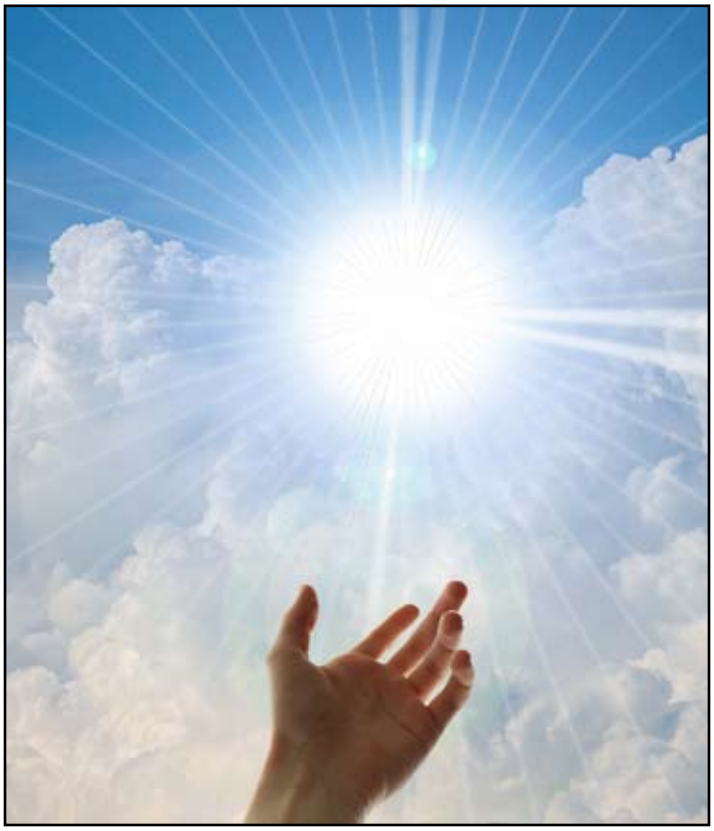
I wanted what I perceived everyone else around me to have — a deep and abiding faith in something greater than myself. To my young eyes, everyone seemed dialed into this God and Jesus stuff, and they seemed quite happy to be so. I could never find it, and I could never feel it. But I never stopped looking.

At the age of 18, I finally started declaring to a few to whom I was very close that I was an atheist. I didn't believe in anything, certainly not God, certainly not Jesus as anything more than a historical figure, and certainly not the human soul. For most of my adult life, I applied one of two labels to myself: Atheist and Agnostic.

The irony is this: I never stopped looking.

While I was busy rejecting the Christian God with all my might, I kept my search up for the mystical. I was fascinated by spiritual (not religious) topics, such as reincarnation, consciousness, and the survival of the human soul after death. I was also raptly interested in the historic Jesus and the true history associated with many of the biblical stories with which I grew up.

Recently, I realized something major. If I'd lived my life so bereft of faith as I believed, then I wouldn't have spent my entire life looking for it. The mere fact I spent the better part of four decades seeking the Divine tells me I did, indeed, have faith, or I just would have stopped. I believe now that what I thought of through most of my life as a struggle with faith was, instead, rebellion against the paternalistic Judeo-Christian version of God. It wasn't faith that didn't work for me — it was religion.



In order to seek truth, one must have faith that ultimate truth exists. For me, that search started as a young child deciding how I felt about the stories of Jesus and continues until this day. I may not go about it in a traditional way, but I have been seeking the Source as surely as any person engaged in any holy pursuit.

Along the way, what I perceived as my struggle with faith was, in fact, my struggle with my own search — because the way I went about looking didn't resemble anyone else's relationship with the Divine, as far as I could tell. I was never rejecting God. I was rejecting my personal way of finding the Divine.

In truth, I let what others said and did get to me. Many people over the years have had a lot to say about the way I personally chose to seek God. I've had people tell me I'm going to Hell. I've had others tell me I have the Devil inside of me. Others have called me a charlatan. Some make jokes. Others roll their eyes.

The way I went about looking for faith didn't resemble anyone else's relationship with the Divine.

Others either ignore it altogether (I have a few relationships in my life where my spiritual activities are a taboo subject — we pretend they don't exist at all) or politely suggest that I get myself to a church STAT. I understand these are all well-meaning people living with their own version of faith — one that works for them. I don't hold it against them.

I had few role models in my personal life to show me there was another way to experience Divinity. Luckily, my dad was always a very open-minded presence who sought faith in his own way, much as I was doing. He encouraged me to find my own God, and his support and non-judgment through the years was instrumental in my continued search. Just knowing I had a least one person who didn't judge helped me keep going.

I now consider myself a person of faith, even though my God is very different than the one I grew up with. Over the years, the Divine kept leaving me clues that encouraged me on my search, if I was only willing to see them for what they truly were.

Regardless of where you are on your search for Divinity, this article is one of God's clues for you. Keep seeking the Divine in a way that is meaningful to you. Don't listen to those who feel you need to be on their path and only their path.

There are as many ways to find the Source as there are souls in the Universe, and no single path is better than any other. How you get there is up to you.

But remember this: The fact that you are continuing to seek the Divine is its own version of faith in action. ◆

5 BEST CRYSTALS FOR SHADOW SEASON

By Dr. Athena Perrakis, Sage Goddess

What is light without darkness — or darkness without light? Though the two forces are inseparable and equally vital, one sparks joy and hope while the other tends to elicit feelings of uncertainty, fear, and shame.

But why do we instinctively fear the darkness? Why are we afraid of what we can't see or don't know? As those of us in the Northern Hemisphere traverse deeper into autumn's forest, sunlight is growing increasingly scarce. We're being asked to acclimate to the shadows and "see" the world around us through other senses — to journey through the shadows and rely on a different form of sight, one that relies on faith, trust, and inner wisdom.

As we do this sacred work, it's important to keep our crystal allies close, which is why I'm sharing with you the best crystals for shadow season — my personal favorites for channeling protection and guidance in the coming months.

The work of shadow season is the exploration of the unknown, uncharted, and unlit parts of ourselves, armed only with the belief that we'll make it to the other side stronger and wiser. It's within this darker half of the year that we can understand and integrate our shadows — the parts of ourselves that we often shame and repress.

Shadow work helps you acknowledge all parts of your spirit and bring them into the light for greater healing and wholeness. This season is also when the Veil is at its thinnest — a powerful time to commune with our ancestors and spirit guides beyond our world of time and space.

Keep these crystals close to harness safety, stability, courage, and ancestral guidance in the coming weeks. Incorporate these gems into crystal grids, hold them in meditation, or simply place them on your altar to create an environment of tranquility, wisdom, and support as you travel beyond the Veil.

Here are the five best crystals for shadow season.

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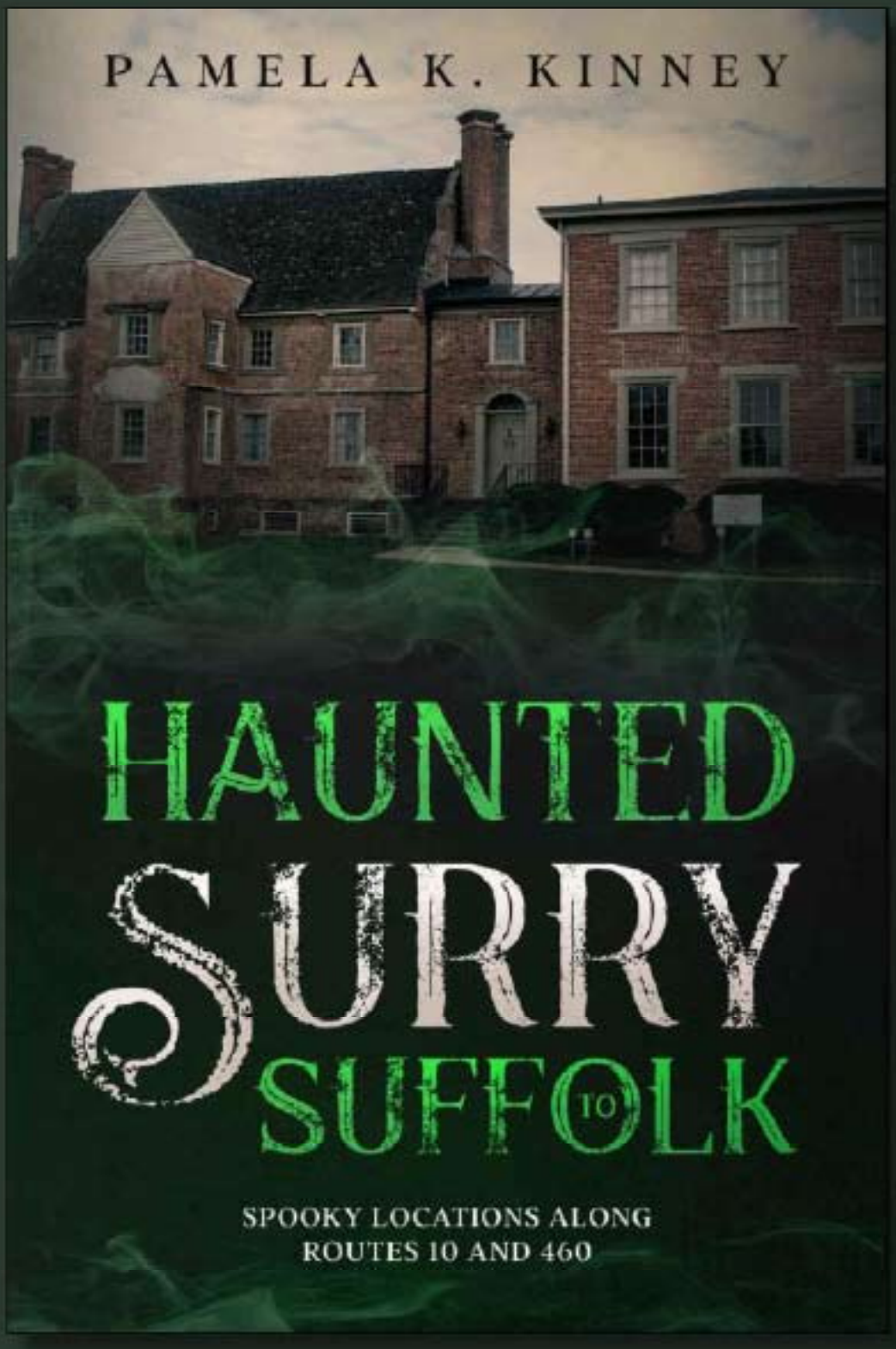
No matter which road you take to visit the towns and countryside along Routes 10 and 460 in Southeastern Virginia, the phantoms can't wait to SCARE you a good time.



Available on Amazon

1. Golden Sheen Obsidian

Golden sheen obsidian is the perfect tool for shadow integration and transmutation. It helps you face the darkest aspects of yourself with courage and compassion and overcome judgment, fear, and uncertainty — anything keeping you from embodying your highest, most authentic self.

This gem cleanses your auric field, uplifts surrounding vibrations, and helps you acknowledge your shadow to achieve all-new levels of spiritual understanding. It activates the Earth Star and Root Chakras, helping you stay stable and connected with Gaia as you go about your spiritual work.

2. Petrified Wood

Petrified wood is a member of the quartz family that activates the Earth Star Chakra, connecting you to ancestral and ancient wisdom. It's a stone of grounding, protection, and past-life recall. Petrified wood holds the power and energy of the Earth, connecting that life force with your own. It encourages patience, slow and steady growth, and spiritual transformation.

Petrified wood calls you to the present to be fully aware in the now. It's also useful for accessing the Akashic Records — the cosmic library that contains wisdom of the past, present, and future.

Work with petrified wood during shadow season for a steady dose of stability and security as you cross the Veil and connect with your ancestors and guides.

3. Amber

Amber is deeply protective, but its energy is one of light, wisdom, and abundant warmth. This gem prevents psychic attack, heals soul trauma, and readily repels anything dark. It surrounds you with an energetic shield, making you feel safe and held, physically and spiritually.

This gem also activates the Solar Plexus Chakra, igniting your personal power and imparting optimism, courage, and confidence as you go about your shadow work.

4. Picasso Jasper

Picasso jasper is one of the most powerful gems you can work with during shadow season. This gem is a stone of shadow integration — it helps you to love yourself fully, just as you are. It grounds you and holds you as you transform from within, helping you navigate change with grace.

Picasso jasper helps you integrate all parts of yourself and acknowledge both the light and the darkness within you. This stone also connects you with loved ones who have passed into the spirit realm, sharing with you their messages and sweet ancestral memories.

5. Dumortierite

The Veil is at its thinnest during shadow season — meaning spiritual wisdom is more accessible to us than at any other point of the year. To harness the magic, you'll also want to work with potent Third Eye Chakra stones like dumortierite. Dumortierite is a stone of psychic ability, divine inspiration, higher guidance, and mental discipline.

It enhances insight and intuition and is an especially wonderful stone for astrologers and tarot readers because it stimulates mental and psychic powers. Keep this gem close as you go about your shadow work to access messages from the spirit realm.

Working With Crystal Shapes

When choosing your shadow season crystals, keep in mind how various crystal shapes serve different purposes. You can work with gemstone spheres for scrying and divination or with a pendulum to channel messages from your ancestors and guides to answer any pressing questions you have. I also love working with wands — they're great for sending and receiving energy during ritual or meditation.

When choosing the crystals you wish to work with this season, be sure to trust your intuition — your inner guidance will never lead you astray.

May the coming shadow season be a time of great transformation, revelation, and expansion for you. May the light within you remain incandescent, providing you with guidance and warmth on every step of your journey. ◆

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Unknown Caller: The Wendigo Case

By Willie Windwalker Gibson

During the past few years, I have written about cases I have had and my adventures as a shaman. I have over 40 years of stories to share. This next story is about an ongoing case I am currently consulting on — a Wendigo case.

A few weeks ago, a friend of mine, who's also a member of the Paranormal Clergy, called me. I will call her Sally. She had been working on a case that she thought might need the help of a Shaman. The case involved a possible Wendigo terrorizing a family in Kentucky, not too far from where I live.

Sally said that the creature described to her sounded very much like a Wendigo. It was huge and looked like a cross between a wolf and a bear.

It had been seen in the family's home crawling on the ceiling. And, the women living in the house had been getting bruises on their bodies, especially around their thighs. They had cuts, as well, that resembled claw marks.

I told Sally to tell the people to move, but Sally had already advised that, and the family refused to leave. She asked me if I would investigate the matter further. I told her that I wouldn't be able to, as I was recovering from an Illness and was too weak to take on a Wendigo. I told Sally that sometimes even a shaman has to walk away. But I did offer to consult with Sally as to what to do about the Wendigo.

I advised her to tell the family to wash the house with blessed salt, and then take some blessed white ash and encircle the outside of the house. I also told Sally that anyone living at the house should be blessed by clergy.

I also let her know that the Wendigo would need to leave on its own and I suspected that the creature had been sent there by someone. A Wendigo can shapeshift, so it could be someone they knew and had a problem with. Sally said she would let the family know what to do.

* * * * *

Several days passed, and as I hadn't heard anything back from Sally, I called her. She told me she

had no word back from the family and that she would call me back when she heard from them.

Several more days passed and still no word, not even from Sally. Then, after a few more days, my phone rang. I looked at the caller ID, and it said "unknown caller." The call was coming from the town that the family lived in.

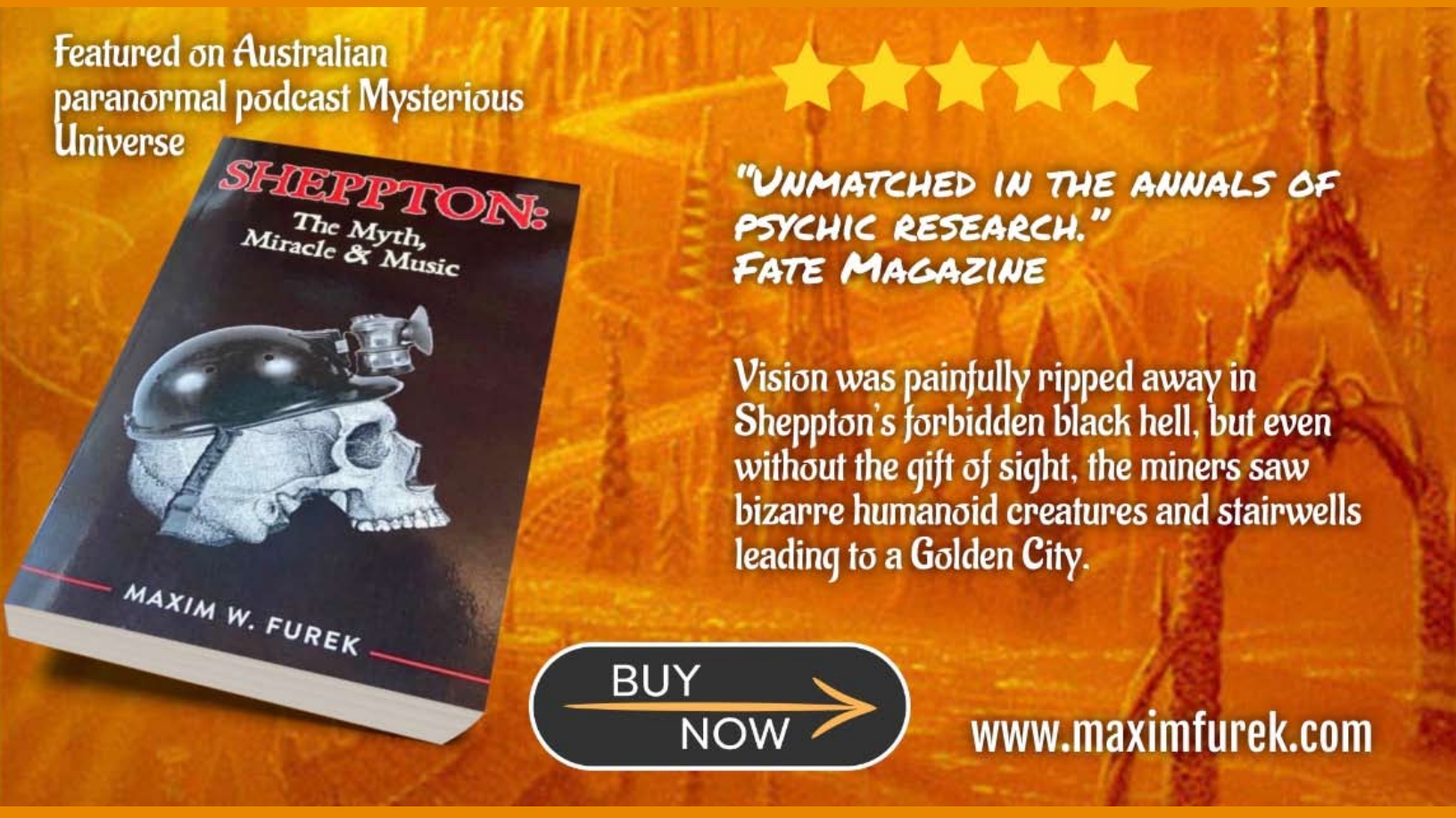
I picked up the phone and said, "Hello," but there was dead silence on the line. I hung up and called Sally, asking if she had given the family my phone number. She hadn't. I let her know that I received a call from the town where the people lived.

Sally was shocked and told me she hadn't heard from them in over a week.

I immediately recommended that Sally salt her house and place the ash to protect herself. I told her the Wendigo was sending a warning to me, and probably her next, to back off. Sally told me she would.

The Wendigo knew I had been contacted, and it knew I knew how to get rid of it. It was warning me to stay away. I'm not afraid to do battle with any supernatural being. But in this case, I was too weak from an illness and was still recovering from surgery. It would not have been wise to take the case myself in such a weakened state.

However, if the Wendigo ever shows up on my property, I'll have no choice but to fight. And when I fight, I fight to win, even to the death.◆



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